

**BRIAN J. BOQUIST**  
**STATE SENATOR**  
DISTRICT 12



**OREGON STATE SENATE**

August 1, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C., 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As a member of the Consumer and Small Business Protection Committee and the Senator for District 12, which includes a large swath of rural Western Oregon, I am writing to express support for LightSquared's plans to bring a much-needed 4G-LTE wireless network to Oregon

At a time when demand for mobile broadband is driving prices and congestion through the roof, expanding next-generation wireless capacity should be a top priority of Congress. The U.S. is lagging when it comes to broadband speed, relegating some communities to second-class status in the Information Age and holding back economic recovery. Improving wireless broadband speed and reliability is especially important in rural Oregon, where it can help revitalize the economy and create jobs.

LightSquared's wholesale 4G network will increase sorely needed competition by enabling a diverse group of companies to sell wireless broadband -- including retailers, cable operators, device manufacturers, Internet content creators and application providers. By making it possible for dozens of new competitors to bring high-speed wireless Internet to all Americans on wireless devices, LightSquared's wholesale plan will ultimately drive down consumer costs, help bridge the digital divide and enable businesses and individuals to remain in now-underserved areas rather than relocating based on broadband availability.

The build out of the LightSquared network carries with it great economic potential. The company plans on investing \$14 billion in the creation of its network and anticipates creating 100,000 direct and indirect private sector jobs over the next five years through the build-out, administration, and utilization of the network.

Oregon businesses stand to gain real benefits and Oregon citizens stand to gain good jobs from the creation of the LightSquared network.

Please work to ensure that this important new mobile broadband service comes to Oregon as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. J. Boquist". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "B" and a cursive "J".

Brian J. Boquist  
State Senator, District 12